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WILLIAM LAND PARK

Presentation of data showing the many advantages of its location and improvement on the Rancho del Paso



Prepared and Issued by

WILLIAM LAND PARK CLUB







N the hope of stimulating to early fruition the development in conformity with modern artistic conceptions of park beautifications, in our

City Suburban Park, situated on Ranch del Paso, and thereby establishing for the people of the rapidly growing city of Sacramento, rural pleasure grounds of transcendant beauty and splendor, this booklet is presented to the public.

The site of this great park possesses natural characteristics and environments of rare beauty. It embraces 828 acres of land of splendid fertility and wonderful diversity in productive capacity. It is of an undulating or rolling character, which is itself an important factor in the artistic development of a public park. Upon it stands innumerable large oak trees which obviously constitute valuable natural assets in park beautification.

This park was selected for the city of Sacramento by five members from each of ten civic bodies. It was secured at a most liberal price from The Sacramento Valley Colonization Co., the corporation that purchased the entire Rancho del Paso from its former owner, J. B. Haggin.

In studying natural conditions of the new City Park John Nolan, one of the world's expert landscape artists. found excellent opportunity for the exercise of his talents and to a special committee of the Chamber of Commerce furnished an elaborate report together with a comprehensive plan for development of this natural pleasure ground. Among the features recommended by Mr. Nolan are, a lake covering 100 acres for boating and bathing, a forest of 200 acres where mortals may enjoy nature's solitude, a botanical and palm garden and area for curious plants from remote parts of the world, a zoological garden, space for pleasure games such as golf, tennis, baseball, etc.

Shortly after the city of Sacramento acquired title to the City Park, a number of enthusiastic ladies and gentlemen of this city organized themselves into a club for the purpose of urging immediate development of the city's beautiful suburban pleasure grounds. Much has been accomplished in this direction, but the time has arrived when all the people of Sacramento must help in this movement which is for their health and enjoyment.

A plan has been proposed for establishing on the park a number of attractive beauty spots, which has been called the Park of Nations, which plan, let it be understood, does not contemplate in its fulfillment the spending of any of the city's money; or the money donated by the late Wm. Land. On the contrary it is claimed, and we think with good reason, that it will

be the means of inducing the expenditure of large sums of money by the different nations; also, by individuals and societies that could not be obtained in any other way. It is proposed to have demonstrations of the natural characteristics of important nations of the world typifying the mannerisms, customs and peculiarities of other peoples in far away lands. A beautiful Japanese Tea Garden is proposed by enthusiastic Japanese who would establish a picturesque oriental attraction that would please the thousands of visitors as it does in the famous Golden Gate Park. An attractive Chinese pagoda would be established with appropriate surroundings. This is a feature that could be made gloriously attractive because of opportunity to grow all the varicolored plants of the orient adjacent to it, giving a naturalism to the display that would be surprisingly beautiful.

It is suggested to have a scene from the lowlands of Holland depicting the life in that wonderfully prosperous country. A huge Dutch windmill will be one of these attractions. Five thousand dollars for this will be donated by the North Sacramento Land Company. Mr. W. T. Banker will donate his services as architect. Some of the features of the luxurious gardens of Versailles could be produced, such as the quaint French play-houses erected by the ill-

fated queen, Marie Antoinette. Mr. O. A. Robertson, the purchaser of the Rancho del Paso, will donate \$10,000 for some nationalistic building or buildings. This will go far toward many beautiful spots. Mr. E. C. Hemmings has agreed to donate his services as architect on some of this work. A reproduction of some of the places in the Highlands of Scotland can easily be made and thereby add marvelously to the beauty of the park, and at the same time interest many people directly in this laudable undertaking. Mr. D. W. Carmichael has agreed to donate \$2,500 for the erection of the Robert Burns Cottage, for which Mr. Alden Campbell will donate his services as architect. This will add a distinct Scottish feature to the Park. Here and there, could be placed most captivating beauty spots of our own nation, such as the Log Cabin birthplace of Abraham Lincoln which the Arcade Park Company will build. Picturesque antiquities such as are seen in Portugal, Italy and the other countries of Europe will be built by subscription of different nationalities. It will be readily seen that the project has a never ending interest, not only for those who are anxious for the development of the rich park acres belonging to the city, but to those of our citizens who were born abroad. and who would deeply interest themselves as they have already done in bringing to realization their beautiful

feature of developing the City Park. Mr. E. T. Osborn will give his services gratis as architect in the placement of the Ann Hathaway Cottage. A. H. Schardin will donate his services as architect.

These facts are presented to show how much to the advantage of every individual in our beautiful and prosperous city it would be to develop this park that all may enjoy full measure of health and pleasure that it will afford. The beautiful Park of Nations would be developed under the direction of the city.

The late William Land bequeathed a large sum of money to be expended on a public park to be named in honor of his memory. His most generous gift to Sacramento could be made available for development of the great City Park on the Rancho del Paso provided the name be changed to William Land Park. This might well be done in honor of one of Sacramento's foremost citizens, who for more than half a century had much to do with its progress and development. His efforts were always for the welfare of Sacramento, and the very generous provision in his will for the beautifying of a public park that the people may enjoy sweet communion with the glories of Nature, deserves the lasting gratitude of the citizens of the community.

Should it be determined by the people of this city to forever have the City Suburban Park known as William Land Memorial Park, it would be the means of starting enthusiastic development on our suburban pleasure grounds and the establishment of a most attractive place for sight-seers who will journey to this city during the great world's exposition in 1915. The naming of the park in honor of the memory of the late William Land would not only make available for this great work his magnificent gift, but it would unloosen the purse strings of many generous men and women of this city who are certain that it is the only logical and feasable means of giving to Sacramento and its posterity a place of enjoyment that will call forth the blessings of countless thousands who are destined to live in the wholesome pleasures it will afford.

Electric transportation is absolutely assured within 18 months after the City Commission has agreed to place the Land Fund in this Park.

Acknowledgment for assistance is hereby made to Reynolds and Whitman and C. M. Phinney for their services in the interest of this enterprise.

Every man, woman and child in Sacramento should extend all possible efforts toward the early improvement of this Park, as this will mean more toward the development and renown of the city, as well as to the individual happiness of every citizen than any other civic improvement ever proposed.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. LAND PARK CLUB.

We are presenting herewith a number of letters which you will find very interesting reading. They evidence the kind of co-operation that is necessary to the success of this great undertaking. As this is a matter that is for the well being of every man, woman and child in Sacramento, we urge that you give it your best thought and attention, that you discuss it with your neighbor and thereby kindle an enthusiasm so essential to success in all public undertakings.

INDUCEMENTS FOR APPROPRIATING THE LAND BEQUEST TO DEL PASO PARK

(Binding only on condition of such appropriation.)

North Sacramento Land Co. offers 200 acres of land for a panhandle to park and \$5,000 for a Dutch windmill.

Dr. T. Wah Hing will donate \$200 for the Chinese display.

Judge Shields offers a picturesque adobe hut, built and occupied by Indians with adjacent ground, which typifies the aboriginal period of American history.

The Arcade Park Co. offers to continue Del Paso park drive along Arcade Creek through their holdings, toward this Indian hut and to erect nearby a reproduction of the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. Such a log cabin would typify the period of our forefathers and could be used for an Indian museum.

Mr. Robertson offers to continue the drive back to the park through his property and to donate \$10,000.00 toward some nationalistic building.

The Natomas Consolidated Co. will shift one of its main boulevards to such a position that it will conduct the public from what is now Del Paso park directly across the American Basin to the Sacramento River and to the center of interest and a park to be developed by the Company at this point, where it will meet the River Boulevard built upon the top of the levee which will conduct visitors back to the city of Sacramento. BOTH THESE BOULEVARDS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATOMAS COMPANY.

H. A. McClelland will donate \$250 toward building a gateway or Scotch display.

The idea concerning the beautifying of Del Paso Grant by establishing there the "Park of Nations", appeals to me to be an excellent one. I believe it is the best plan yet proposed to add to the attractions of the city.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS GRACE, Bishop of Sacramento Diocese.

ENDORSEMENTS.

In regard to the Park of All Nations of which I have been spoken to on several occasions, permit me to say that I consider the idea a very excellent one, and I sincerely hope that the labors to make Del Paso Park Sacramento's most beautiful spot will be crowned with success. To have all peoples who dwell upon this coast represented at Sacramento's largest park is, I believe, a most happy idea, and I am quite sure that those of my countrymen who have the good fortune to live in Sacramento will not be slow to realize that our country's worthy representation at the park is a great honor to our race, and at the same time a duty entitled to our highest consideration.

Yours truly,

(REV.) J. V. AZEVEDO.

I am strongly in favor of a Park of Nations, aside from the educational part it would be a great thing for Sacramento and the valley. Travelers see many things in their journeys and forget many things that they have seen. For our visitors to see our Park of Nations and its wonders would be to indelibly impress Sacramento on their minds with the result that Sacramento would be known the world over. I have no authority to speak for the Scotch residents of Sacramento and vicinity but I feel that when the time comes for action they will be to the front in force, their national pride will assert itself.

I am sure there are historical places enough in the home land to select from.

JOHN McD. GRAHAM.

Council "Gloria e Victoria" No. 12, S. P. R. S. I.:—We heartily indorse the project of using the Land Memorial Fund at "Del Paso" making it a "Park of Nations," and should the different nationalities of Sacramento co-operate with the committee, we, the Portuguese women of Council No. 12 will endeavor to help bring to Sacramento one of the many beautiful old spots so dear to Portugal's children.

I give my hearty endorsement to the Park and Boulevard system proposed for the greater Sacramento, and strongly urge that nothing short of a great central park which may be a playground for all the people, shall be the aim before us. The Park of Nations plan in connection with this will be an inspiration and education, and will end in increasing vastly the public interest and money avilable for this enterprise. Let the Land be-

quest be used to carry out this purpose and the Park or a section of it be named for him.

WM. HALL MORELAND,
Bishop of Sacramento.

The plan of providing within Del Paso Park a "Park of the Nations", the various nationalities being represented by some suitable structure or monument appeals to me as a novel and excellent idea, and I have no doubt that the Germans of this city and vicinity will do their part to have the project carried out in a creditable manner.

(REV.) CHAS. F. OEHLER.

The undersigned feels deeply interested in the scheme undertaken by a number of ladies of our city to establish a park in the suburbs where all nations should be represented. I am of the opinion that such a park would be a pride of our city and have no doubt that if other nationalities will assist, the Germans will do likewise.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES SCHMIDT,
Editor "Herold."

I am greatly in favor of the proposed park where all the leading nationalities will be in some way represented. I hope my people will also endorse the plan and give to the workers for it their strong support.

FATHER E. MELA.

The Park of the Nations is a very beautiful scheme, if other nationalities are represented in this park I am certain the Italians will donate and do what they can.

ROGER GIORGI.

Japanese people thinks that is a great interesting thing and we hope it will be success with the agreement of every nation.

REV. P. K. KAJITSUKA.

I believe that is the best idea to have such a park in Sacramento. I will bring the matter before the board of directors of Japanese association of Sacramento so the entire residents of local Japanese will raise money and join with other nations to have their own garden or villages and the garden or villages will be built exactly the same as we have back in our native land and trees to be planted in the gardens which can not be

found in this country and the other materials imported direct from Japan.

Panama-Pacific Exposition is coming, millions people from all over the world will visit California during the fair, I think every one of visitors will call at Sacramento, the Capital City of California and they find their own country here in Sacramento. Oh they so please to see such a place thousands miles away from their homes. I believe, without any doubt, the Japanese residents of Sacramento will raise large sum of money and assist every way to have the Park of Nations success.

Very truly yours,

E. TOKI (Aki Company).

I was greatly impressed with the idea regarding the Chinese park attached to your proposed national park and in talking with the various Chinese residents I tried to enthuse them with the importance of the scheme and how much benefit together with pleasure they would derive from same. I am thoroughly convinced that with a little effort the Chinese of this city and surrounding vicinity will contribute towards the success of the proposition.

Very respectfully yours,
EUGENE S. WACHHORST,





